URBAN DISTRICT

OF

KNOTTINGLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1969

URBAN DISTRICT

OF

KNOTTINGLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1969.

BY

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1969.

Chairman: Cr. J. Joyce.

Vice Chairman: Cr. J. Sellers.

Cr. J. T. D. Beaumont.

Cr. G. Clarke.

Cr. P. H. Furniss.

Cr. G. Johnson.

Cr. Mrs. M. Nunns, J.P.

Cr. G. Penty.

Cr. R. Wolstencroft.

Cr. A. Wood.

Clerk to the Council:-

H. B. Probert Esq.

Medical Officer of Health:-

John F. Fraser,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector:-

L. Barber Esq.,
M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Urban District during the year 1969.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART ONE

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of District:		2,837 Acres.
Population, mid-year, Registrar General's estimate:		17,010
Number of Inhabited houses at the end of 1969:		4,650
Rateable Value:	1969 - £1,173,016	
Product of Penny Rate:	1969 - £4,800	

These figures show a population increase of 810.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1968.

Live Births.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate	126	(137)	148	(131)	274	(268)
Illegitimate	13	(16)	9	(10)	22	(26)
Totals:	139	(153)	157	(141)	296	(294)

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 17.4 (18.1)
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 16.7 (17.4)

Stillbirths.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate	2	(-)	1	(-)	3	(-)
Illegitimate	1	(1)	1	(1)	2	(2)
Totals:	3	(1)	2	(1)	5	(2)

Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths: 16.6 (6.8)
Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 0.29 (0.12)

Deaths.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
All age groups.	65	(65)	53	(45)	118	(110)

Infants under One Year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate	4	(-)	2	(3)	6	(3)
Illegitimate	-	(-)	1	(-)	1	(-)
Totals:	4	(-)	3	(3)	7	(3)

Maternal Deaths: Nil. (Nil)

Death Rates.

Crude rate per 1,000 population:	6.9	(6.8)
Adjusted rate per 1,000 population:	11.7	(11.5)
All infants per 1,000 live births:	23.6	(10.2)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	21.8	(11.2)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:	45.4	(Nil)
Maternal Deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths:	Nil	(Nil)

Although the number of births increased by 2 as compared with last year, the birth rate has dropped from 18.1 to 17.4 because of the increase in population of the district.

Deaths have increased by 8. The infant mortality rate is 23.6 as against 10.2 last year.

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

TABLE I.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine.	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, bronchus.	5	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast.	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus.	-	1	1
Leukaemia.	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms.	4	2	6
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms.	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus.	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	2	-	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	3	2	5
Hypertensive Disease.	2	1	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease.	14	14	28
Other forms of Heart Disease.	5	1	6
Cerebrovascular Disease.	3	5	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	3	3
Influenza.	1	1	2
Pneumonia.	6	5	11
Bronchitis and Emphysema.	7	4	11
Peptic Ulcer.	1	-	1
Cirrhosis of Liver.	2	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	2	2
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System.	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies.	2	-	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1	2
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions.	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1
All Other Accidents.	1	1	2
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries.	1	-	1
All other External Causes.	-	1	1
Totals:	65	53	118

INFANT MORTALITY.

The following Table gives the causes of Infant Deaths during 1969 classified into age groups.

TABLE II.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 wk.	1 wk. to 1 month.	1 month to 1 year.	Totals.
Congenital Intestinal Atresia.	M	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-
Intracranial Haemorrhage.	M	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1
Neonatal Atelectasis.	M	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	M	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	1	1
Operative Shock - Coarctation of Aorta.	M	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-
Prematurity.	M	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1
Totals:		4	1	2	7

COMPARISON OF KNOTTINGLEY VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

	Knottingley Urban District.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County.	England and Wales (Provisional figures).
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population). Crude Rate:	17.4	16.8	16.9	16.3
Adjusted Rate:	16.7	17.2	17.1	*
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population). All causes) Crude Rate:	6.9	12.3	11.6	11.9
Adjusted Rate:	11.8	12.9	12.6	*
Infective and Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	*	*	*	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	-	0.03	0.03	0.02
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.01	0.01	0.02
Tuberculosis - All Forms.	-	0.04	0.04	0.04
Cancer, Lung, Bronchus.	0.29	0.52	0.49	0.61
Cancer, All Forms.	1.18	2.22	2.10	2.35
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	*	*	*	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases.	2.65	4.67	4.39	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.41	1.81	1.69	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live & stillbirths)	-	0.19	0.20	0.19
Perinatal Mortality.	29.9	24.5	23.7	23.4
Neonatal Mortality.	13.5	12.6	12.3	12.0
Infant Mortality.	23.6	19.3	18.9	18.1
Stillbirths (per 1,000 live and stillbirths).	16.6	13.8	13.5	13.2

* Figures not available.

PART TWO.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, throughout the year.

TABLE IV.

	Jan/ Mar.	Apl/ June	Jul/ Sept.	Oct/ Dec.	Total	Deaths	No. of Cases Admitted to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever.	3	2	-	2	7	-	1
Measles.	-	3	2	5	10	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning.	-	-	1	1	2	-	1
Infective Hepatitis.	1	-	3	2	6	-	-
Totals:	5	5	6	10	26	-	3

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons:-

TABLE V.

Number of Cases on Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1969.	27	29	6	12	74
Notified for the first time during 1969.	2	1	-	-	3
Inward Transfers.	-	-	-	-	-
Removed from Register.	1	3	-	-	4
Cases remaining on Register at the end of 1969.	28	27	6	12	73

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table.

TABLE VI.

Entries relating to:	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died.	-	1	-	-	1
Persons certified by the Medical Practitioner in attendance to have recovered.	1	-	-	-	1
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	-	2	-	-	2
Revised Diagnosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	1	3	-	-	4

During the year 3 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified.

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

PART III

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF THE
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
DIVISION 12

Pontefract Municipal Borough
Featherstone Urban District
Knottingley Urban District
Osgoldcross Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
1969

BY

J. F. FRASER

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1969.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J. F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Departmental Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

S. F. Schofield, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers (part-time).

M. Mason Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.
A. Vaux, M.B., B.S.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.

Ophthalmologist.

K. K. Prasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R. W. L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino Laryngologist.

K. M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Divisional Nursing Officer.

Mrs. M. Craig.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Mrs. P. M. Brice.
Miss L. O. I. Day.
Miss A. Elsley.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.
Mrs. M. D. Fisher.
Miss B. N. Kennington.
Mrs. C. M. Parry.
Miss M. Reading.
Mrs. M. P. Sawyer.
Miss S. Sharpe.
Mrs. E. M. Vipurse.
Mrs. M. K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitor.

Mrs. L. Hudson.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E. W. Petch.

Midwives.

Mrs. K. Berry.
Miss K. Capper.
Miss E. S. Essex.
Mrs. E. Glover (Relief)
Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. J. R. Pearson.
Mrs. P. Philip.
Mrs. A. M. Randall.
Mrs. S. Whitehead.

Home Nurses.

Mrs. S. G. Cousins.
Mrs. S. Eaton.
Mrs. M. L. Etherington.
Mrs. F. Green.
Miss J. Langton.
Mrs. P. M. Long.
Mrs. V. McVeigh.
Mrs. A. Pearce.
Mrs. J. M. Pycock.
Mrs. D. Vause.

Mental Welfare Officers.

Miss M. Horsley.
Mr. G. F. G. Townend.

Speech Therapist.

Mrs. N. Hepworth.

Administrative and Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver (Divisional Administrative Officer).
Mr. R. L. Smith (Senior Clerk).
Miss K. Duker.
Mrs. M. A. Hinchliffe.
Mrs. E. M. Slack (Part-time)
Miss A. Stainton.
Miss M. Taylor.
Mrs. J. M. Williamson.
Mrs. J. L. Windmill.
Mrs. J. M. E. Wood.
Mrs. M. H. Carver (Part-time).
Mrs. P. Ramsdale (Part-time).
Mrs. S. Smith (Part-time).

INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births registered in the divisional area during 1969 was 1288, a decrease of 11 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE 17.8 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 18.0 in the previous year. It was higher than the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.9 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.3.

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the divisional area after correction for transfers were 663, an increase of 8 compared with 1968.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area was 11.6 and England and Wales, 11.9.

Infant Mortality.

In 1969 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 29, an increase of 16 compared with 1968. The Infant Mortality was 22.5 as against 10.2 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1301 notified live births, 231 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 9 of these cases.

Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the division:-

Death of mother	Nil
Death of child	Nil
Stillbirths	1
Liability to be source of infection	Nil

Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1969 numbered 17, all of these being domiciliary.

Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with a Trilene Analgesia Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 63 cases. Trilene was administered in 28 cases and with Pethidine in 84 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

One Ante-Natal Clinic, at Pontefract, functioned during the year. 70 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 298. 5 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

At the 31st December, 1969 it was decided to discontinue this clinic.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers were held at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 804.

Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

During the year accommodation was provided for all applicants having their first baby, and for all those with home conditions unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement. Of the remaining applicants a high proportion were allotted beds.

Cervical Cytology.

A clinic is held each week at the Central Clinic, Trinity Street, Pontefract. Facilities for this examination are now available to all married women.

During 1969 41 sessions were held and 499 women examined.

CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Eggborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

During 1969 2733 children attended at clinics and they made 17,172 attendances.

The following proprietory preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics:-

Ostermilk No. 2	Farex.
Trufood, humanised.	Robinson's Groats.
Cow and Gate, full cream.	Robinson's Triple Pack.
Minadex.	Robrex.
Trufood Cereal.	Robsoup.
Adexolin.	Rose Hip Syrup.
Scotts Twin Pack.	

The annual turnover of baby food, etc., is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

Ascorbic Acid.	Ferrous Fumerate Tablets.
Fersamel Syrup.	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 90 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division, and 18 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Medical Inspections.

Hitherto school children have been examined as a matter of routine at the following intervals:-

Entrants	5 years +
Second Age Group	7 years +
Intermediate years	10 years +
Leavers	14 years +

With effect from September, 1968 it was decided to retain as routine examinations only the first (Entrants) and the last (Leavers). In the intervening years the parents are asked to complete a Health Questionnaire and only those children thought to require examination are dealt with. This allows the School Medical Officer to give more attention to the children likely to have defects.

The re-examination of children who at previous periodical or special examination had been found to have defects was made at each school medical inspection.

During the year, 2888 children received a full medical examination. A further 2076 children who had been found to have defects at previous examinations were also examined.

General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination, and 99.44% were classified as satisfactory and only 0.56% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness.

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 25,023 examinations of children in schools. Of these 268 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS.

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K. K. Prasher holds a weekly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1408 children were examined. Of these, 511 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K. M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 25 sessions and saw 148 children. In all, the children made 322 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R. W. L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 7 sessions were held. 31 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 60.

Child Guidance Treatment.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. P. Atkinson, Psychologist, and Mrs. P. Y. Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the clinic.

Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Day E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 172 sessions were held and 111 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training Colleges.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to Training Colleges for the purpose of satisfying the College authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 77 candidates were examined and where necessary x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 6 examinations were made.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered for the first time to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

In addition, vaccination is offered each year to those pupils over the age of 13 years who have previously been absent or whose parents have not consented. Each child has, therefore, a continuing opportunity to be vaccinated before leaving school.

No. of consent forms issued.	No. of affirmative consent forms received.	Mantoux Test.	Mantoux Negative.	Mantoux Positive.
1754	1297	1249	1123	126

Not Ascertained.	B.C.G. Vaccination.
-	1123

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year the following people were visited:-

No. of children under one year of age	1281
No. of children aged one year & under 2 years	1380
No. of children aged 2 years & under 5 years	2911
Persons aged 65 or over (excluding domestic held service visits)	764
Total number of cases visited	8187

HOME NURSING.

During the year 27,576 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 25,211 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	970	21335
(2) Surgical	432	5357
(3) Infectious Diseases	29	236
(4) Tuberculosis	7	212
(5) Maternal Complications	35	262
(6) Other	20	174
TOTALS:	1493	27576
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	667	18346
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	127	455
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	252	18702

CHIROPODY SERVICE.

A free chiropody service is provided for the following categories of patient:

(a) Expectant Mothers.
(b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65 years, Females over 60 years.)
(c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinics, are treated in their homes.

In 1969 701 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 2651 attendances. 498 patients were treated at home and 2018 treatments given.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. There are as follows:-

(a) Ill.
(b) Lying-in.
(c) Aged.
(d) Expectant Mother.
(e) Mental Defective.
(f) A child not over compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in, and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division at 31st December, 1969 was 48.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i)	Basic.	48
(ii)	From Reserve.	5.5
(iii)	Total.	53.5

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1969.

(i)	Whole-time	-
(ii)	Part-time	73
(iii)	Total	73

Cases provided with domestic help during the year ended 31st December, 1969.

	No. of cases.	Hours Employed.
Under 65.		
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	11	378¾
(ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous	93	2,085
(iii) Others	17	546½
Over 65.	604	99,635¾
	725	102,646

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time = 54.5

MENTAL HEALTH.

Much good work in this field was carried out during the year by the two Mental Welfare Officers working in the Division.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF.

In 1969, 39 examinations were made of staff in connection with superannuation.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

During 1969 the following number of children were immunised against the diseases listed:

Disease.	Year of birth.					Others under age 16	Total
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-1965		
Diphtheria.	19	711	47	8	15	2	802
Whooping Cough.	19	707	46	5	7	-	784
Tetanus.	19	709	47	8	14	6	803
Polio.	18	712	53	15	19	2	819

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

During 1969 463 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

THE CHILD NEGLECTED IN ITS OWN HOME.

Meetings of the Co-Ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings, attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Children's Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1969

BY

L. BARBER

M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

C O N T E N T S

	Page
Cesspool & Gully Emptier	19
Committee - Constitution of	1
Common Lodging Houses	5
Disposal of Old Motor Vehicles	6
Domestic Smoke Control	21
Factories Act	24
Food Hawkers	16
Food Hygiene Regulations	17
Food Premises	16
Housing Advances	13
Housing Statistics	11
Improvement Grants	13
Industrial Smoke Control	21
Infectious Diseases	5
Insect Infestation	5
Meat Inspection	15
Moveable Dwellings	5
New Housing	10
Noise Abatement	27
Overcrowding	10
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	25
Preface	2
Refuse Collection and Disposal	19
Rodent Control	6
Sanitary Accommodation	5
Scrap Metal Dealers	6
Slaughterhouses	15
Slum Clearance	10
Visits and Inspections	28
Water Supplies	4

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Constitution of Public Health Committee

1969/70

CHAIRMAN:

Councillor J. Joyce

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Councillor J. Sellers

MEMBERS:

Councillor J. T. D. Beaumont

Councillor G. Clarke

Councillor P. H. Furniss

Councillor G. A. Johnson

Councillor Mrs. M. Nunns

Councillor G. Penty

Councillor R. Wolstencroft

Councillor A. Wood

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
of the Chief Public Health Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Lady and Gentlemen,

Once again it is my privilege and duty to submit to you my report covering a year's work in my Department. It is not often in Local Government that one has to use strong terms in describing the events of the year, but the result of decisions taken at Central Government level over the past years culminated in 1969 in a situation which can only be described as tragic. The effect on Public Health and the environment with which we concern ourselves, of the decision forced upon us to have our Smoke Control Orders suspended, is incalculable. I have commented on this later in my Report but feel that the effect on the morale of Clean Air protagonists has been so disastrous that it can most certainly stand repetition.

During the last few months, pronouncements, both Ministerial and editorial, have given cold comfort to those of us who back this giant crusade. When one considers that all this has taken place in Conservation Year, when the attention of the World is being focused upon the fouling of our total environment, one becomes appalled by the hypocrisy and inefficiencies which have been revealed.

Once again, Knottingley's municipal house building record has been outstanding and this year has finally completed the Council's commitment to the National Coal Board. The attentions of the Council and its Committees are now being turned to the, it is hoped, early development of the older part of the town, a large proportion of which has now been, or is in the process of being, demolished.

It is pleasing to note that the swimming baths and the sewage works so long promised the town have been completed and both, in their own way, are now contributing to the welfare of the town.

Local Government in general and the Knottingley Urban District in particular (as being closest to our own thoughts and ambitions) has once again been reprieved from the fate which was due to overtake them within the next two years or so, but one wonders whether the position has been bettered by this reprieve in that, once again, certain knowledge of disaster has been replaced by certainty of disaster with an uncertainty as to the way in which the disaster will come about. One would have thought that recent happenings would have made those whose job it is to decide our future, at least doubt the automatic assumption that the larger and more centralised an undertaking is, the more efficient and efficacious are its deliberations and decisions.

Having unburdened my mind of some of its more abstract considerations, it is with some pride that I present this report and, in so doing, thank my Committee and its Chairman for their very close interest in the Environmental conditions of the town and for their support and advice at all times.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

L Barber

Public Health Inspector

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

The Water Authority for the Urban District of Knottingley is the Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board on which this Council is ropresented. Water is extracted from deep bore holes and, generally speaking, the water supplies for the area have been well maintained with few, if any, major water shortages.

Such local shortages as have been experienced have been almost entirely due to the inadequacies of the distribution system, the majority of which have now been rectified. Certain restrictions which had to be imposed on development in the district have now been lifted and the outlook for the future of our water supplies appears to be very good.

All houses in the Urban District are now connected to the public supply.

A copy of the Public Analyst's report on the supplies which together make up our mains water is appended below.

ANALYSIS OF MAINS WATER

Parts per million	Roall	Heck	Eggborough	Pollington
Total Solids	400	240	320	320
Chloride	33	25	25	25
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	180	103	120	90
Total Hardness	280	160	180	160
Permanent Hardness	100	57	60	70
Temporary Hardness	180	103	120	90
Lead, Copper, Zinc.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Iron	0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manganese	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Free Ammonia	0.14	0.01	0.01	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.02
Nitrous Nitrogen	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	1.1	2.0	2.0	2.2
pH	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.8

These waters are of good organic purity.

(signed) E. ASQUITH.

Richardson & Jaffe,
Bradford

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

It is estimated that there are over 5,514 properties in the district, of which 4,916 are occupied dwelling houses. The remainder consist of business and industrial premises and agricultural properties. Two of these properties do not have a water carriage system of sewage disposal but work has commenced on converting one this year. Twenty-eight houses are served by cesspools and these are all in the remoter parts of the town or are on sites where it is impossible to connect to the sewer.

Of the Industrial Premises in the district, the majority are sewered. Cesspools are in use again in the odd place where it is not practical to connect into the sewer and on certain construction sites.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Supplies of disinfectant are available at the Public Health Department as and when required. Disinfection is carried out as necessary.

INSECT INFESTATION

The table below shows the number of complaints received and treatments carried out. These do not correspond as we often treat a number of houses as a result of one complaint.

Infestation	Complaints	Treatments
Ants	94	132
Silverfish	4	6
Crickets	6	8
Cockroaches	2	3
Earwigs	5	7
Black beetles	14	16
Miscellaneous	16	27

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Urban District.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

We have only one licenced caravan site within the district with standings for 45 caravans. Amenities have been provided on the scale laid down by the Ministry and electricity and fire fighting equipment are also laid on.

There appears to be little difficulty in filling the site which is somewhat surprising in view of the excellent housing record of the town and the comparatively short time which people have to wait for a Council dwelling, should they be in need of accommodation. The site is on the North-Western boundary of the Urban District but is convenient for bus services to local shopping areas and is pleasantly situated in protected woodland.

Gypsies and travellers use vacant plots in the town from time to time but, as development progresses, these sites are becoming progressively fewer and nearer to housing estates. The occasional presence of gypsy caravans under these conditions almost invariably produces complaints from the householders and the Local Authority take action to remove the caravans. Unfortunately, at the latter end of the year, land owned by the West Riding County Council was used as a caravan site and long and protracted negotiations had to take place with the West Riding before the site was eventually cleared.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

We now have six scrap metal dealers registered in the district. This type of business appears to be growing and the modern system of building for obsolescence will probably result in an even greater increase for the future.

Scrap yards are somewhat uneasthetic developments and great care will have to be taken when planning permissions are granted to ensure that the object of preventing spoilage of the country side by the collection of scrap is not negated by the unsightly sprawling of the scrap yards themselves.

One prosecution was taken against a dealer who was using a scrap yard without planning permission and the dealer was fined. Subsequently, having made application for planning permission, this application was granted for the same site.

DISPOSAL OF OLD MOTOR VEHICLES

Present legislation on the road worthiness of vehicles has led to a rapid growth in the numbers of vehicles to be disposed of as scrap. The growth of the scrap metal business has led to the general public belief that a scrap vehicle is a valuable asset. People with vehicles for scrap, therefore, appear to spend as much time trying to get a good price from a scrap dealer as they do when trading in one car for another. Unfortunately, very often during this process the car is removed piece-meal by person or persons unknown.

Despite publicity, and the very low prices being paid for scrap cars (where any payment is made at all), we find that people are still reluctant to have the Local Authority remove their old vehicles. We have therefore, in many cases, to resort to the use of the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act in order to ensure removal of these unsightly and, in many cases, dangerous heaps of slowly rotting metal.

A total of 37 cars were disposed of by this department during 1969.

RODENT CONTROL

The growth of the town is reflected in the number of complaints received of rodent infestation as shown in the Annual Return to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food which is reproduced at the end of this section.

A fairly large number of these notifications have been originating in the developing areas of the town. These new houses are being built on what was recently farm land and disused quarries. There is little doubt that the endemic rodent population has been migrating towards towards the houses during the construction period. In order to overcome this problem, we no longer treat individual houses in this area but do treatments of at least a block of houses at a time.

By and large, the sewers are clear of rats but we still get minor infestations in those parts of the town where demolition is taking place and where the sewers are old, flat and generally in a poor condition. Permanent baiting is maintained in those parts of the sewers and fluoracetamide has proved to be about the most effective bait for this purpose.

We still use the old faithful Warfarin with Alphachlorolose as a back-up poison for mice and, in certain cases, even for rats. Trapping, gassing - using hydrogen cyanide, and even ferrets have been brought into use on occasions. We have been singularly fortunate this year in the number of approbations we have received for the way in which the service has been carried out.

Our contract service is a useful adjunct to our domestic rodent control work in that it enables us to offer an extremely competitive price to local business men and relieves them of the fear of unknown and inflated charges, should they have the timerity to report an infestation on their premises. A few organisations still flatly refuse to take out contracts in which case any work we do for them is on a time and materials basis and it is usually found that one treatment per year cost more than the contract price for a full years' service.

During the year we lost our rodent operator and a new man joined us, thus necessitating a much closer overseeing of the work by my staff and I would congratulate them on the way they not only fitted this into their routine but on the results which they achieved. As previously I have already said, much favourable comment has been received on their efforts this year.

* * * * * * * * * *

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1969

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	NON-AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district.	5,481	33
2. a) Total no. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	222	6
b) No. infested by (i) Rats	188	5
(ii) Mice	34	1
3. a) Total no. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	237	12
b) No. infested by (i) Rats	41	5
(ii) Mice	30	1

SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year? Yes

* * * * * * * *

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 2

HOUSING

NEW HOUSING

As I forecast in my last Report, 1969 has raised the all-time high figure for completed new houses within the Urban District to a new record level. In total, 359 new houses were completed during the year, of which 10% were built by private enterprise and the remainder by the Local Authority. The figure for private enterprise is a considerable disappointment after the most promising figures of the past years, but when one considers the restrictions on prospective house owners, brought about by the high interest rates and the restrictions on loans forced on to the Local Authority, one could not have expected a continuation of the previous years figures for very much longer. The year ahead, of course, will reflect the end of my Council's commitment to building for incoming workers and presumably in the private sector will reflect the same restrictions as 1969 did.

With the General Election in prospect, by the time this report is read, a new Government of some sort will be in power and the future is very difficult to foresee. Fiscal policies, subsidies, slum clearance standards are all back in the melting pot this year and he would be a bold man who would try to forecast the outcome or to try to justify in advance possible trends in these matters.

As I have said before, Local Government itself, as we know it today, is in the balance and an election may well result in even greater uncertainty than we have at the present time.

OVERCROWDING

There were no cases of overcrowding brought to the notice of the Department during the year. One reason for this, of course, is that lodgers in Knottingley are so quickly housed that overcrowding has no time to develop.

SLUM CLEARANCE

My Council's slum clearance programme of over 500 houses was completed some two or three years ago.

We have recently submitted to the Ministry a programme of 51 houses as being our next five years clearance programme. Some of these houses are in central redevelopment areas, some of them are houses the owners of which may well respond to the latest improvement grant proposals and it is hoped during the coming year to make a determined effort in the case of these houses to ensure improvement rather than clearance.

Slum clearance, particularly in Northern England, can never really end. Each year, one or two houses, by reason of poor maintenance, sub-standard tenants, neglectful owners and occasionally, sheer Acts of God, deteriorate to the border line between habitable and inhabitable. These houses must then be dealt with and this, basically, is the reason for our submission to the Ministry.

Our commitment to provide houses for mine workers migrating into the district has now virtually ended and my Council's efforts will, I feel sure, now be directed towards beautifying and developing those derelict areas of the town where slum clearance on a fairly large scale has taken place. This programme has been held back for reasons which, in the main, have been beyond my Council's direct control and I feel sure that the time has now come when a determined and forceful line of action will be taken on this project.

HOUSING STATISTICS

I give below a copy of the Housing Statistics for the year 1969 as submitted to the Ministry, which show the work carried out by the Department during the year and also, to some degree at least, the results.

1. Number of dwelling houses in the district. 4916

2. Number of houses included in above (a) Back to Back Nil

(b) Single Back 8

3. SLUM CLEARANCE

Estimated number of unfit houses at 31.12.69. in respect of which no representation has yet been made.

12 (nominal)

Details of future slum clearance programmes - Programme of 51 houses submitted to the Ministry as our next five years clearance.

4. HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Number of houses included in Representations made during the year:-

(a) In Clearance Areas Nil
(b) Individual Unfit Houses 9

A HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING THE YEAR			
In or adjoining Clearance Areas declared under Section 42 of the Hsg. Act, 1957.	Unfit for human habitation	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	-- --
	Included by reason of bad arrangement.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	-- --
	On land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act 1957.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	-- --
Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas.	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	11 --
	Local authority houses certified unfit by the M.O.H.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	1 --
	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	-- --
	Houses included in unfitness orders made under para.2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	-- --

ber of houses included above which were viously reported as closed in pursuance of sing orders or undertakings.	In or adjoining Clearance Areas	-
	Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas.	4

UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED during the year in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings

nder Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) ousing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing ct 1961.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	- -
nder Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 957.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	- -
ARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 8 Housing Act, 1957.	Number of dwellings	-

NUMBER OF PERSONS DISPLACED DURING YEAR	
From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	-
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	67
From houses to be closed	-
From parts of buildings to be closed	-
NUMBER OF FAMILIES DISPLACED DURING YEAR	
From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	-
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	19
From houses to be closed	-
From parts of buildings to be closed	-
UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT	

ter informal action by local authority	by owner	39
ter formal notice under Sections 9 (i) and 16 (i), using Act, 1957.	(a) by owner (b) by local authority	- -
ter formal notice under Public Health Acts.		-
eviously included in a clearance order which has been or will be dified or revoked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1961.		-
eviously included in a demolition order which has been or will be voked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957.		-
eviously included in a closing order which has been or will be etermined under Section 27, Housing Act, 1957.		-
OTHER HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
ter formal notice under Public Health Acts.		-
ter formal action under Section 9 (1A) Housing Act, 1957.	(a) by owner. (b) by L.A.	-
ter informal action by local authority.		-

G UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

POSITION AT END OF YEAR	Retained for temporary accommodation	Under Section 48	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	- -
		Under Section 17(2)	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	- -
		Under Section 46	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein.	- -
		Licensed for temp. accomm. under sec. 34 or 53 - No. of houses.		-

H PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed or compulsory purchase orders.	No. of houses	6
	No. of occupants	19

5. No. of families rehoused during the year into Council owned dwellings.	(a) Clearance Areas etc. (b) Overcrowding.	- -

6. OVERCROWDING

Overcrowding is not a problem in this district and can be alleviated by re-housing very quickly if any case does come to our notice.

7. NEW DWELLINGS

No. of new dwellings completed during the year:-

By the Local Authority 325 By Private Enterprise 34

8. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OR IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

	Formal applications received during the year	Applications approved during the year	Number of dwellings completed during year
	Number of dwellings	Number of dwellings	
(a) CONVERSIONS (The number of dwellings is the number resulting from completion of the work)	1	1	-
(b) IMPROVEMENTS	20	20	10

9. DETAILS OF ADVANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING OR CONSTRUCTING HOUSES

23 advances made in 1969. This figure has been grossly deflated by the financial restrictions imposed upon the Local Authority.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 3

FOOD INSPECTION

AND

CONTROL

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

We now have only three privately owned slaughterhouses in the district, one of which is confined purely to the slaughter of horses. The majority of horse meat is exported to Continental countries.

There is no Public Abbatoir in the district.

MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection is still carried out at the three slaughterhouses in the town, partially in overtime at the weekends. This is not, of course, popular with the staff but I am convinced it is even less popular with the butchers themselves. It is very difficult, however, for a small family butcher to attend to his shop, buy at markets and then slaughter the animals and still have them available for inspection within the normal office hours of this country. Generally speaking, only a small amount of disease is found in animals killed in this district. This is a tribute both to past policies pursued by both Government and Local Authorities and the skill of our butchers in chosing their animals for slaughter.

Meat from horses slaughtered within the district is exported to the Continent and this meat is inspected and the official certificate issued prior to export.

PARTS CONDEMNED

Cattle:	1 liver	-	Parasitic
	3 plucks	-	Abscesses
	2 livers	-	Distamotosis
Pigs:	9 plucks	-	Pneumonia
	3 plucks	-	Parasitic
	3 plucks	-	Fever
	4 livers	-	Milkspot
	1 head	-	T.B.
Sheep:	27 plucks	-	Parasitic
	8 livers	-	Parasitic
	1 carcase	-	Emaciated
Horses:	13 livers	-	Hydatidosis
	3 lungs	-	Pneumonia
	1 lung	-	Inflammation
	5 lungs	-	Hydatidosis

MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	363	1375	543	144
Number inspected	363	1375	543	144
All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci				
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	35	20	22

MEAT INSPECTION FIGURES CONT.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	1	-
Cysticerci				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-

FOOD HAWKERS

All food hawkers in the Urban District are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, Section 76.

Before registration, all vehicles must have a self contained hot water supply, a sink, soap and towel.

Twenty-nine hawkers are now registered with this Authority. This figure includes one new registration, granted during 1969. Six hawkers premises are registered.

Hawkers are all inspected from time to time and any infringements found are notified for rectification before the next inspection.

FOOD PREMISES

I give below a list of food premises in the district.

Registered Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For the sale and storage for sale of ice-cream	-	31
For the manufacture and sale of ice-cream	-	2
For the preparation of sausages or preserved food	-	7

Other Food Premises

Butchers	-	9
Cafes	-	4
Works and School Canteens	-	20
Fish and Chip Shops	-	13
Bakehouses	-	1

Slaughterhouses	-	3
Clubs and licensed premises	-	28
Other food shops	-	48

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Little extra work has been done during the year in this context as the majority of our shops have been brought up to the standards required under the existing regulations. A close eye is, however, being kept on those shops which are due for demolition and certain minor improvements have been achieved, despite their probable early closure.

****

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 4

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Little more can be said on this subject except that the service has absorbed the demands laid upon it by the large building programme and this has been done without employing any more men.

Our Friday afternoon collection for large items has proved to be popular, but, unfortunately, there are still a few people in the district who would rather dump a bedroom suite on a roadside than have it collected in one of our vehicles.

We now have three modern vehicles and a rather ancient but useful stand-by vehicle in case of breakdown or maintenance stand down of a vehicle.

Disposal is our greatest concern in that it is very difficult to prevent totting on the tip and a large number of fires are caused by this activity. A number of prosecutions have been taken again this year and fines have been imposed by the magistrates.

We use a loading shovel with a driver only on the tip and, by and large, the disposal area is kept in fairly good condition except when fly tipping (which is becoming prevalent) takes place. The cesspool/gully emptier has to be used quite frequently to help the tip control machine dig out and control the fires. This is dangerous and dirty work and has resulted in men having to have time off work after having been effected by the nauseating smoke and steam which arises from these fires.

CESSPOOL AND GULLY EMPTIER

The vehicle and crew carrying out this work have an extremely varied career and are liable to be called to all sorts of emergencies, many of which take up a considerable amount of their time. Despite this, with the occasionally judicious use of overtime, the majority of works which they undertake are kept under control and very few complaints are received concerning the efficiency of either the vehicle or its crew.

* * * * * * * * * *

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 5

CLEAN AIR

CLEAN AIR

DOMESTIC SMOKE CONTROL

Ten years ago, my Council took its first practical steps towards making Knottingley a clean and smokeless area to live in. These steps were by no means premature as the town is very heavily industrialised as well as being a closely knit residential area. In 1969, the ten years work from that first experimental effort died. Our achievements literally went up in smoke as solid fuels became "temporarily" in short supply.

Despite very strong opposition, my Council hoped, in public at any rate, that the fuel situation was under control, and carried on bravely and in face of criticism, with their programme to make Knottingley smokeless by 1972. Then came the crunch. Muddled policies, a searching for efficiency with no regard to expediency took its inevitable toll. Solid smokeless fuel almost disappeared. With ashes in our mouths and smoke in our eyes, we had to ask the Ministry to suspend our domestic smoke control orders. The Ministry have retreated in a succession of circulars to local authorities. At first a temporary breakdown of distribution was the fault, soon to be remedied, it was said. Next, 1971 was to see demand equal to supply with possible local shortages. Then came the decision to change public heating schemes to fuels other than solid fuels. The latest circular claims 1972 as being the year when output should achieve parity with demand. What next we wonder?

Comment is often made at both Governmental level, in the technical press and, inevitably on our newest mass entertainment media of the inefficiencies and shortgivings of small, outdated local authorities. If a local authority had produced inefficiency on this scale, there would have been scandal nation wide and heads would have rolled.

The cause of Clean Air and its supporters have been made to look foolish and inept and their principles and objectives have been called into question through no fault of their own. The Government may well speak of 1972 as being the time when this great crusade can go forward once again but it is an axiom of war that no commander can move forward without troops and I feel that the faith and good will of the troops has been lost for many a year. It is difficult at this time to see how officials and elected members are going to summon up courage to tread the same path again not knowing into what further nooses they may place their heads.

A major re-think is required and it may well be that a demand for the central Government to pay the full cost of re-converting solid fuel appliances to other forms of heating will arise. Should this cry come, which I am sure it will, then in common justice to the local authorities and the rate payers, this must be done. Through no fault of our own, thousands of pounds have been invested in heating appliances which are now obsolescent and indeed, in many cases, completely unsuitable for the types of fuel which will be available in the future. Those responsible for this error must make the funds available to rectify it. Only in this way can any semblance of realism and hope be brought to the future domestic smoke control programme.

INDUSTRIAL SMOKE CONTROL

Very little industrial smoke problem is now being encountered in the town and where it does occur, it is usually due to a problem annually arising and therefore annually to be solved. An example of this was found during the year where it was noticed that a certain stack, at regular but infrequent intervals, poured forth black smoke. This was due entirely to the burning of polythene sheeting in a

previously disused boiler stack. A temporary solution has been found to this problem and we are now searching for a long term solution. The power stations have been less trouble during the year than during the past two years but this is probably due to the laying off of plant rather than to extra measures being taken to reduce pollution.

* * * * * * * *

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - 6

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

FACTORIES

The statistics set out in the table below are those previously required by the Ministry and are purely for the information of members.

ANNUAL REPORT IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF KNOTTINGLEY

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A's.	1	2	-	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	51	139	2	-
Other Premises in which Sectn. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	52	141	2	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

As far as we are able to ascertain, all premises covered by the above Act have now been registered and the works required by our initial inspections have now all been carried out.

Inspections have continued during the year but few, if any, contraventions of the Act have been found.

The premises which are exempted are generally premises which will be demolished during the coming year and it is hoped that no further exemptions will be necessary as the people concerned move into larger and more modern premises.

TABLE A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspection during the year.
Offices	3	80	80
Retail Shops	2	35	35
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses.	-	2	2
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens.	-	15	15
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals	5	132	132

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to Registered Premises.
158

TABLE C - Analysis by workplace of persons employed in registered premises at end of year

(1) Class of workplace	(2) Number of persons employed
Offices	117
Retail shops	97
Wholesale departments, warehouses	6
Catering establishments open to public	41
Canteens	3
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	264
Total Males	90
Total Females	174

TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

Class of Premises (1)	No. of exemptions current at end of year (2)	No. of exemptions granted or extended during year (3)
PART 1 - SPACE (SEC. 5(2))		
Offices	1	1
Retail shops	-	-
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens.	1	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-
PART II - TEMPERATURE (SEC. 6)		
Offices	1	1
Retail shops	-	-
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	1	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-
PART III - SANITARY CONVENIENCES (SEC. 9)		
Offices	1	1
Retail shops	1	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	1	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-
PART IV - WASHING FACILITIES (SEC. 10)		
Offices	1	1
Retail shops	-	-
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	1	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-

TABLE E - Prosecutions

No complaints, summary applications or prosecutions have been laid or instituted during the year.

TABLE F - Inspectors

Number of Inspectors appointed under Sec. 52(1) or (5) of the Act.
1

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act.
Nil

NOISE ABATEMENT

We have had a few complaints of noise during the year but little difficulty has been experienced in solving the problems. About 50% of the complaints have been caused by the working of plant which has been brought in for a short time for a specific job and has very quickly been removed after the job has been completed. This type of complaint is most difficult to deal with as obviously the contractor will not carry out remedial works if he knows that, by the time that reports have been made, notices served and so on, he will be long gone. Nevertheless, we try to keep on top of the job and spot them before complaints arise.

The other complaints arise generally from the installation of new plant in factory premises without regard to nearby housing estates. Legally enforceable standards of sound insulation are becoming more desirable as man power is replaced by machine power.

Noise, as is smoke, is a man-made phenomenon and only when man realises his responsibility to his brother, will such problems be resolved.

* * * * * * * *

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

1969

Accumulations	5
Canal Boats	12
Cesspools	15
Drainage Inspections	25
Drainage Tests	19
Factories Mechanical	139
Factories Non-mechanical	2
Licensed Premises	30
Nuisances Inspections	125
Refuse Collection	111
Refuse Disposal	134
Rodent Control	459
Schools	6
Smoke Observations	12
Smoke Control Visits : Factories	13
Domestic	115
Tents, Vans and Sheds	37
Water Supplies	6
Food Inspections	19
Shops Acts Inspections	51
Butchers	18
Grocers	94
Fried Fish	13
Other Food Shops	47
Canteens	20
Ice-cream Premises	43
Food Preparing Premises	14
Bakehouses	2
Hawkers	21
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	249
Houses Inspected	101
Re-visits	296
Unfit Houses	26
Dirty and Verminous Premises	14
Infectious Diseases	17
Interviews	396
Overcrowding Complaints	2
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	132
Insect Infestation	141
Improvement Grants	17
Miscellaneous	269
TOTAL:	3,267